

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

15 JANUARY 1981

American Hostages

Tehran radio reported that Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i and Minister of State for Executive Affairs Behzad Nabavi "met and conferred with" Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni but did not elaborate on what was discussed.

Tehran radio's English service and PARS broadcast the purported text of the bill authorizing the Iranian Government to arbitrate legal and financial differences with the United States through an intermediary but their versions differed with the earlier Persian text on certain points. Whereas the Persian version said the government is authorized to arbitrate differences "not stemming from the Islamic revolution of Iran" or the seizure of the U.S. Embassy, the English version said the government "is allowed to settle" the differences "which stem from" the embassy's takeover, a point supported in the PARS version. Moreover, while the English version declared that the "Islamic government has settled the mentioned differences through the intermediary," the Persian version said only that the government can "take action through mutually agreed arbitration ... to resolve and settle the said disputes," an explanation similar to that in the PARS version.

In conjunction with the Majlis debate on this bill, Tehran radio carried an unattributed commentary which said in part that Iran's "steadfastness" has forced President Jimmy Carter to place "70 percent" of Iran's frozen assets in the Algerian Central Bank, to undertake to return the late shah's wealth and to suspend claims against Iran. However, PARS later cited an "official responsible" for hostage affairs as saying that the "figure given is not supportable." The commentary went on to say that the seizure of the hostages did not lead to the fall of Iran or a "compromise" with the United States and that now the issue "is a dead one," which "should no longer create a problem for us." A later unattributed commentary on the radio made no mention of any U.S. financial concessions, instead stressing that by seizing the hostages, Iran "has achieved its political and spiritual goals" and is about "to regain its legitimate rights."

In further developments, Algiers radio speculated that a settlement is "imminent." However, AFP, citing an "authoritative source," reported that Algeria has "not yet" been asked to receive the U.S. hostages if they are released.

Iran Domestic Affairs

Universities--AFP reported that Jalaleddin Farsi, a leading member of the Islamic Republican Party and "cultural revolution committee" member, said the universities will be reopened only after the ongoing purge of university staff has been completed. Although nearly 10 percent of university professors and lecturers have already been dismissed, the government has set up a new "purge committee," Farsi said, which is to carry out a more thorough review of staff, weeding out alleged spies, Freemasons, Savak accomplices, groups dependent on foreign countries and supporters of parties planning to overthrow the regime by force.

Raja'i Speech--Prime Minister Raja'i told a health seminar that since American imperialism has "no foothold among revolutionary Islamic organizations," it has sought out those "sullied" by Western principles and raised the issue of "expertise." In his speech, reported by Tehran radio, Raja'i told Islamic health societies that the revolution has suffered more than 60,000 "martyrs."

Power Cuts--Electricity supplies in some areas are to be cut temporarily on a rotational basis, an Energy Ministry statement carried by Tehran radio revealed, because of the priority needs of military plants and production industries.

Oil Prices--Tehran radio's Arabic service reported that, according to an Oil Ministry spokesman, oil prices were increased on 1 January, with light crude rising to \$37 per barrel and heavy crude rising to \$36 per barrel.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

An Iraqi General Command communique, reported by INA, claimed that Iraqi forces raided Iranian positions around Dehloran and disrupted Iranian troop concentrations near Abadan, Susangerd and Mehran. Iraqi planes struck Iranian targets in Ilam, the communique said, but lost one plane in the raid. Iranian forces continued their clashes with Iraqi forces along the Kabir Kuh Mountains, Tehran radio reported, with "intense fighting" on the Kanisakht heights. The radio said that "aggressive Iraqi forces" continued their attacks around Susangerd and Abadan and shelled Dezful and Hoveyzeh.

Syria

Moscow Visit--Syrian Chief of Staff Gen Hikmat ash-Shihabi met with Soviet Defense Minister Dmitriy Ustinov in Moscow on 13 January, TASS reported, and had "a friendly discussion" on topics of "mutual interest." Monitored Syrian media have not mentioned Ash-Shihabi's visit to the Soviet Union.

Muslim Brotherhood--Damascus radio reported that in three separate incidents, security forces in Aleppo killed four Muslim Brotherhood "criminals." The incidents follow earlier Jordanian and Lebanese reports of increased violence in the Aleppo region.

Egypt

In an interview with French television, reported by MENA, President Anwar as-Sadat said France "should never have permitted" Libyan intervention in Chad. Describing Libyan leader Col Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi as a "mental case" who is dreaming of an African empire, As-Sadat warned against the establishment of a Soviet "arms arsenal" in Libya. The Soviet Union, he said, is penetrating Africa in "three belts" in the south, the center and the north. As-Sadat also said that Egypt will deport two Soviet spy suspects, who, he claimed, were preparing a plan to "undermine the regime," and noted that a third Russian has asked for asylum in Egypt. Regarding the new U.S. administration, As-Sadat said he pins "great hopes" on Secretary of State-designate Alexander Haig because he thinks in "strategic terms."

Libya

In a speech to students in Benghazi, reported by JANA, Colonel al-Qadhafi said that Libyan forces are being reinforced to face "French imperialist troop reinforcements" on Chad's borders. Al-Qadhafi went on to affirm that although Libya is still striving to preserve good relations with France, "this cannot be done at the expense of Libya's security" and warned France that it would be "the losing party" in any confrontation with Libya.

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 010

15 January 1981

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

i

AFGHANISTAN

Officials Address Meeting, Present Certificates	C 1
Editorial on British MP's Visit, Western Media	C 1
Chazni Youth Volunteer for Military Service	C 2
Soviets Reportedly Move Against Afghan Conscripts	C 3

PAKISTAN

UN Envoy Holds Talks With Waldheim on Afghanistan	F 1
Consortium Rules Favorably on Aid Payment	F 1

IRAN

Majlis, Guardian Council Approve Arbitration Bill	I 1
Tehran English Account	I 1
PARS English Account	I 1
Tehran: U.S. To Deposit 70 Percent of Iranian Assets	I 2
'70 Percent' Figure Retracted	I 4
Tehran Claims 'Victory' in Gaining Rights From U.S.	I 4
Raja'i, Nabavi 'Meet, Confer' With Khomeyni	I 6
AFP: Western Envoys To Meet 'Azizi, Nabavi	I 6
'Azizi on Hostage 'Difficulties'	I 6
Algiers: Hostage Issue Settlement 'Imminent'	I 7
AFP: Algeria Has Not Been Asked To Accept Hostages	I 7
Beheshti Interviewed on Hostages, Other Issues	I 7
Hostages: Solution or Trial	I 7
Foreign Courts Unacceptable	I 8
Closer Ties With Romania	I 9
Selection of Justice Minister	I 9
Bani-Sadr 31 Oct Letter to Khomeyni on Conflict	I 10
[Hamburg DER SPIEGEL 12 Jan]	
Bani-Sadr Receives Red Cross Representatives	I 12
Raja'i Address Health Ministry Seminar 12 Jan	I 12
Fars Majlis Deputies Meet With Behzad Nabavi	I 13
Energy Ministry Plans Electricity Cutback	I 13
Oil Ministry Announces Crude Price Increases	I 13
Tehran Cites Damascus Voice of Iraq on Saddam	I 13
Arabian Peninsula Citizens Send Donations to Iran	I 14
Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique 374	I 14
Tehran: Fighting Continues on Khuninshahr Front	I 15
Fighting, Shelling Continue on Khuzestan Front	I 15
Guards Claim Repulse of Attack Near Divandarreh	I 16
Tehran Cites Battle Reports From Western Front	I 16
Tehran Meeting Commemorates Gulf War Martyrs	I 17
Interior Minister Appoints New Mayor for Tehran	I 18
NVOI Claims U.S. Has Given In to Iran's Demands	I 18
NVOI Attacks Presence of Afghan Rebels in Iran	I 19
Voice of Iranian Kordestan on Kurdish Affairs	I 20
Demonstrations in Tehran	I 20
Rival Party 'Illegal'	I 20
Warning to Travelers	I 20
Radio Iran Broadcasts General Oveysi Message	I 21
Emigre Papers Comment on Iran-USSR Transit Treaty	I 21
[Frankfurt FRANKFURTER ALLEGEMEINE 8 Jan]	

OFFICIALS ADDRESS MEETING, PRESENT CERTIFICATES

LD141958 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] In appreciation of the heroic members of the PDPA who voluntarily, in betraying the conspiracies of American imperialism, Chinese hegemonism and Pakistani militarism with the help of the noble people, had gone to the districts of Kabul Province and who, after the accomplishment of training and enlightenment duties, successfully returned to Kabul, the Kabul party committee held a meeting.

At the beginning of the meeting Dr Saleh Mohammad Ziray, Politburo member and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and member of the Revolution Council Presidium, thanked the brave protectors of the party for their enlightened services who, in an indefatigable manner, night and day engage in revolutionary activity to prosper the noble and toiling people. Dr Ziray pointed out the grave and historic duties of the sacrificial party members vis-a-vis the party, government, people and the country and said: We are certain that as a result of the indefatigable and selfless attempts of our brave sons, the enemies of our revolution and of our toiling people will be completely routed, the treacherous and shameful propaganda of rebel bands connected with imperialism who are sent from abroad prevented, and the peaceful way to a prosperous, developed Afghanistan prepared.

At the meeting three party members, on behalf of their other militant comrades, promised the party and the noble people of Afghanistan that they will stand side by side with the police and the armed forces against the rebels sent from abroad to eliminate them as the security forces are doing in all corners of the country; will selflessly and indefatigably safeguard the interest of our people; and will help the security forces against the enemies sent from abroad, thus gaining the objectives of the DRA Government.

At the end of the meeting appreciative certificates, prepared by the Kabul party committee, were distributed to the untiring party activists by Lt Col Mohammad Aslam Watanjar, member of the PDPA Central Committee, member of the Revolution Council Presidium and the minister of communications.

EDITORIAL ON BRITISH MP'S VISIT, WESTERN MEDIA

LD141052 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0435 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Kabul, 13 Jan (BAKHTAR)--Kabul NEW TIMES editorial yesterday is about the British MP's visit to Afghanistan. It writes, the visit of the British parliamentary delegation took place at a time when the mass media of the imperialist countries had intensified their propaganda campaign and fabrications against the party, government and the people of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and victorious Saur Revolution which is forging ahead towards the realisation of its lofty objectives and aspirations.

The delegation during its visit to Afghanistan was provided with all facilities and possibilities to study the situation in Afghanistan and see by their own eyes what Saur Revolution and especially its new phase has brought to the large masses of the people in Afghanistan, reminds the paper.

Furthermore, the visit of the British parliamentary delegation occurred at a time when the people of Afghanistan are preparing for the establishment of the vast national fatherland front in Afghanistan and meetings and gatherings are held by workers, peasants, members of social organizations and party organizations and party organizations and thousands of other people living in Afghanistan.

The paper recalls that the delegation had the opportunity to meet not only the high ranking party and government figures frankly asked whatever questions they wanted and received frankly asked whatever questions they wanted and received sincere answers.

We are confident and sure that the observation of the delegation proved the discredibility of the mass media of the West and the false reports they published and broadcast about the revolutionary and independent Afghanistan and the measures adopted by the DRA Government to bring drastic changes in the social, economic and cultural aspects of the life of the hardworking people of Afghanistan.

Concerning the British Government stand the editorial says, Mrs. Thatcher, the British prime minister who clung to the so-called "Afghanistan issue" in order to get British athletes to boycott the Moscow 1980 games, was in fact trying to divert the attention of public from the problems which her government was encountered with. The British papers and BBC also escalated their propaganda against Afghanistan and carried false reports and distorted facts just to support the government of Mrs. Thatcher because the papers running counter to the Saur Revolution in Britain are controlled by the large firms which greatly exploit the interests of the large masses of the British people.

Although the visit of the British parliamentary delegation to Afghanistan was made contrary to the will of the ruling party and the British Government we are sure that the results of its observance will convince the British Government and people that the Saur Revolution and especially its new phase enjoys the full support of the millions of hard working people including workers, peasants and intellectuals and that peace and security prevail in the country and life is normal in Afghanistan, concludes the author.

GHAZNI YOUTH VOLUNTEER FOR MILITARY SERVICE

LD141959 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] For the sake of maintaining security and the peaceful life of the noble people of Ghazni Province, a number of revolutionary youths belonging to the Democratic Youth Organization of Afghanistan [DYOA] of that province, volunteered to serve alongside the security forces and the police and Ghazni Province.

At a meeting organized to mark this event at the provincial headquarters of Ghazni Province, the militant youths of the DYOA received their arms. Engineer Nazer Mohammad, minister of public works, explained the role of the militant youths in protecting the honor of the country and the gains of the new development stage of the Saur Revolution. He wished them further successes in crushing the rebels.

After this some of the self-sacrificing party youths said in their speeches: We have volunteered to send the enemies of our people to dark graves and to sacrifice ourselves for our beloved country, Afghanistan, and the gains of the new development stage of the Saur Revolution.

The meeting was also attended by some officers and soldiers of the armed forces and police; gifts presented by the Ghazni Province DYOA were distributed to the youth brigade by the minister of public works.

SOVIETS REPORTEDLY MOVE AGAINST AFGHAN CONSCRIPTS

BK141727 Hong Kong AFP in English 1648 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] New Delhi, Jan, 14 (AFP)--An unspecified number of Soviet armoured units moved into Afghan Army garrisons in Kabul last week following apprehension of revolt by conscripts affected by a new military service law announced by the Afghan Government on January 8, Western diplomatic sources said here today.

(Afghan conscripts who had completed the required two years service had threatened to revolt and join the rebels en masse if they were not released by January 8, earlier reports had said).

There was, however, no trouble in Kabul and the sources here attributed it to the presence of Soviet armoured units in the Afghan Army garrisons.

Quoting a reliable source informants here said a series of explosions were heard in Kabul on January 6 and 9, but the Afghan authorities explained that the Soviets were doing "target practice."

Another report attributed the noise to fighting between the Soviet armoured units and the conscripts, the sources said. There was, however, no independent confirmation.

The Afghan Army was also put on alert on January 8 and the commanders were told there could be trouble in the following two days, the sources said.

The new military service law reported by Kabul radio on January 8 had announced new concessions for the conscripts, including an AFS 2,000 to AFS 3,000 (U.S. dollars 40 to 75) pay hike and easier promotion prospects.

The new military service law has lowered the minimum drafting age from 22 to 20 years. It has also made provision for re-drafting of those under the age of 40 years, the sources said.

The military commanders have been asked to retain those who have not yet completed six months of their service in addition to the required two years, the sources said.

(An extension of service for police conscripts sparked off a riot in the Afghan capital about two weeks ago, when disgruntled policemen demanding their immediate release from service attacked a Soviet bookshop and stoned the building which houses the Ministry of Information and Culture. The rioting was confirmed by the Soviet news agency TASS and was reported over Kabul radio).

Giving details on the fighting in Afghan provinces the sources here said that at least eight Afghan Army officers were killed on January 8 in rebel attacks in Herat in central Afghanistan.

At least 26 dead Afghan officers were recently buried in a Kabul graveyard called "soldiers field", the sources said.

There are about 1500 graves in the graveyard and the markings indicate that they all died during the last year, the sources said.

The sources said there were reports of fighting in Qandahar and Lowgar Provinces, but could not give details.

UN ENVOY HOLDS TALKS WITH WALDHEIM ON AFGHANISTAN

BK150947 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 15 Jan 81

[Text] Pakistan's representative at the United Nations, Niaz A. Naik, has had talks with the UN secretary general, Dr Waldheim, on initiating a dialogue for the solution of the Afghanistan crisis under UN auspices. Later, a UN spokesman said that the Pakistan representative briefed the secretary general on the situation, however, he did not provide details. The spokesman said that the UN secretary general is continuing his discussions on achieving a political solution to the Afghanistan crisis.

CONSORTIUM RULES FAVORABLY ON AID PAYMENT

NC142235 Paris AFP in English 2221 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Paris, 14 Jan (AFP)--Pakistan's Western Creditor-countries are prepared to grant an 18-month moratorium for repayment of about 280 million dollars of public-sector development aid, informed sources said here today after a meeting of the consortium of Pakistan.

Pakistan has thus achieved a good part of what it sought at the Tuesday meeting, presided over by the World Bank. It had asked for rescheduling of the debt and in particular that reimbursement should be spread over three years.

Two years ago the consortium refused to reschedule the debt. That decision was interpreted as reprisals against President Ziaul Haq's regime, which was regarded as being in favour of Pakistan having the atomic bomb.

Since then the problems created by the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan have eclipsed the differences between Pakistan and the countries in the consortium, Western sources said.

In a statement after the meeting the World Bank said that the representatives of the creditor-countries welcomed with satisfaction Pakistan's programme of economic reforms and agreed to recommend to their government's significant rescheduling of Pakistan's debt in "long-term concessional official loans."

The consortium does not have the powers of final decision. It provides the general outline for later bilateral arrangements.

Now that Pakistan has reached agreement with the consortium--which includes the United States, Canada, France, West Germany, Britain and Japan--the Islamabad government will seek an accord with the Arab countries. These and Saudi Arabia in particular are Pakistan's main creditors.

Informed sources said that Pakistan would now call for an early meeting of the Paris Club, which groups the Arab states as well as the Western creditors. Michel Camdessus, of France, who presided at the [word indistinct] here yesterday and today, is chairman of the club.

Taking into account private commercial loans, Pakistan's total debts are estimated by some analysts at 10,000 million dollars to 11,000 million dollars.

MAJLIS, GUARDIAN COUNCIL APPROVE ARBITRATION BILL

Tehran English Account

LD142054 Tehran in English to Europe 1930 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] At 0830 this morning the opening session of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, presided over by Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, was held after recitations of some verses from the holy Koran. According to the correspondent of the Central Information Bureau, members of the Guardian Council were also present in this session. The bill pertaining to a settlement of the financial and legal dispute between the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the U.S. administration was brought up. The bill was approved after the explanations given by the minister of state for executive affairs and also after the speeches delivered, con and pro on the bill by some of the representatives. The text of the bill goes as follows:

The government is allowed to settle the financial and legal disputes which stem from the takeover of the American espionage center with due regard to the (?settlement) approved by the Islamic Consultative Assembly. The Islamic Consultative Assembly notes that the Islamic government has settled the mentioned differences through the intermediary who is acceptable to both sides.

The supplementary note of the bill goes as follows:

The differences which are to be investigated by competent Iranian courts will be an exception to this single article.

In this session, while the representatives were voting, it was ordained that the bill related to the returning of the assets of the deceased shah and that of his close relatives should enjoy immediate priority. Meanwhile, the Guardian Council of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in an announcement has expressed that the decision of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, which they have taken today, was not in contradiction with the Constitution of Iran.

PARS English Account

LD151017 Tehran PARS in English 0753 GMT 15 Jan 81

[Text] Tehran, 15 Jan (PARS NEWS AGENCY)--After five hours of discussion yesterday the Islamic Consultative Assembly (Majlis) finally approved a single-article bill authorising the government to settle the Iran-United States financial and legal disputes through arbitration. The bill (?and its note) was formulated after various proposals and modifications by the deputies, are as follows:

"The government is hereby authorised to take the necessary measures by means of mutually acceptable arbitration and with due consideration to the provisions already approved by the Islamic Consultative Assembly (Majlis) to settle the financial and legal disputes between the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the United States Government, which (?might) have resulted from the Islamic revolution of Iran or the occupation of the U.S. centre of plots (former U.S. Embassy)."

Note: "This single article will not apply to the disputes for which provision has been made in the relevant contracts for settlement [words indistinct] (?competent) Iranian courts."

Meanwhile the Council of Guardians announced that the provisions of the said single article and its note were not contradictory to the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran. In other words the Council also confirms the said article.

TEHRAN: U.S. TO DEPOSIT 70 PERCENT OF IRANIAN ASSETS

LD141400 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1104 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The walls of the embassy are occupied and America's great crisis has begun. This was the smashing of a great idol, named America, and the effect of this event on the region was that following it many nations gained the courage, through demonstration and occupation of U.S. embassies, to trample underfoot America's prestige and standing. The principal objective of hostage taking initially was to return the shah and all of his assets to Iran. The greater effect of this event was to strike a blow against the Western superpower which nations imagine one should not insult--not even a single American--because America has the power, the force and the arms. This action, however, further emboldened nations, and in particular it destroyed America's paper might in the region. With the hostage taking America's great crisis also started, a crisis which, perhaps, has been so far unprecedented for America. It was in no way able to explain, interpret or understand it.

Although America witnessed one defeat in Vietnam, witnessed the loss of Somoza in Nicaragua, saw off the shah in Iran, although Watergate resulted in the fall of Nixon--as well as other political and economic crises--the hostage taking issue was the greatest, the most astounding and the most unacceptable of all to America.

Following this development, America was forced to retreat and see all of its plots defeated. The Tabas incident resulted in nothing for America except a number of gunmen killed and a number of aircraft and helicopters destroyed. The American coup caused the execution of a group of friends of America.

America's retreat has continued all along. The latest retreat has been the creation of Iraq's imposed war against Iran, which has gained nothing for America in the short run. If anything, it has brought about the fall of another of its [word indistinct] puppets in its wake. [brief musical interlude]

The hostage taking issue is now dominating all international news. The Islamic Consultative Assembly, in connection with the two bills which have been submitted to the Majlis in this regard, is busy debating this very topic. All these things have brought the hostage taking issue to a sensitive stage. If we were to embark upon an all-embracing analysis regarding the issue of the spy hostages we would note several important factors. In order to review the matter it would be necessary to discuss a number of issues. First, what, in principle, was the purpose of the hostage taking?

If American spies are released will Iran have achieved its objectives? The final decision on this issue has been made by several fronts in Iran and America. From the moment that Iran's Islamic revolution triumphed over Pahlavi's dependent capitalism and over the blasphemous American system dominating the establishment, America lost one of its greatest friends in the region. America's role in the region as a superpower and as a hegemonist has always [word indistinct] been a determining and hegemonistic role.

America has lost many of its friends as a result of uprisings and revolutions, but in this region the shah's downfall was a blow to America's prestige. But what had turned it from a superpower and an invincible giant took place on 4 November 1979 and with the hostage taking.

In a country like Iran, in which America was [word indistinct] master and to which it applied its hegemonism through the puppet regimes which spread the capitulation law [reference to laws which give legal immunity to foreigners in Iran] so that no hair would be lost from the head of an American; so that no one would say anything to them that could be in the least offensive, and in a country in which thousands of government advisers had a kingly rule, high-ranking American diplomats were suddenly arrested like criminals and thieves. [At this point announcer returns to beginning of commentary and repeats verbatim what has been said up to the point of the musical interlude. The commentary then continues as follows.]

This retreat continued all the time, and the latest retreat involved the creation of the war imposed by Iraq and Iran. This move has failed to gain anything for America in the short run and has only led to the downfall of another of America's friends in the region, namely Saddam Husayn, to the creation of a crisis in the vital Persian Gulf region and to oil fluctuations in the region. Whenever we analyze what America has done in connection with the hostage taking we witness a retreat by the West.

In the course of America's punishment, which has lasted for more than 14 months, we have witnessed the shah's death--which America resorted to for fear of delivering him to Iran--and therefore his death, and naturally his extradition, have become irrelevant. It was in these conditions that the imam ordered that the Majlis should determine the conditions for the release of the hostages. These conditions have been set by the Majlis, which was influenced by the imam's remarks. After the Majlis set these conditions the hostages were delivered to the government.

From then on the government undertook to implement the Majlis decisions. The government's role in this connection has been and is to implement the decisions of the Majlis. The negotiations then began with Algeria as the intermediary.

Despite all the destructive propaganda of imperialist quarters--all of which, because of their opposition to the Islamic Republic of Iran, have accused the Islamic Republic of demanding ransom due to their opposition to the Islamic Republic of Iran--Iran has not backed down from its positions. This steadfastness has forced Carter, who is going through his last days in the White House, to place Iran's deposits [sapordeh ha] held in U.S. banks--which amount to 70 percent of Iran's deposits--in the Algerian National Bank, and to accept by undertaking, with regard to the issue of returning the assets of the former shah, to pay [va qabul konad keh ba ta'ahod bemas'aleh-ye esterdad-e amval-e shah-e saheb ra bepardazad] and on the other hand to declare as suspended claims relating to Iran in this connection. In this way, apart from all the propaganda by imperialist quarters and domestic elements, the hostage taking, [long pause] the hostage taking neither led in the beginning to the defeat and fall of the Islamic Republic, nor in the end to compromise with America. Thus even the hue and cry and noise and din of the administration of Ronald Reagan [as heard]--who declared that America should not pay even a single dollar to Iran--was forced to accept [long pause] that the days of the western movies have now ended, as he has conceded that he would also accept the Carter administration's decisions. Thus there is no fear in this regard that under certain particular circumstances stemming from the war we would [pause] [words indistinct] we would be afraid of resuming negotiations with the Reagan administration, negotiations which should naturally start from scratch, something which in itself could drag us to [pause] force us to a compromising flexibility.

At any rate the issue of the hostages is a dead one, and thus it should no longer create a problem for us. What is happening at the moment is that the government, with the views of the Majlis being taken directly into consideration and without any decisions being made without authorization from the Majlis, is currently dealing with the issue, and thus even if the issue is resolved soon, whatever form this takes, this would be regarded as implementation of the decisions of the assembly of the nations representatives, namely the will of the nation, and this is the very thing that was expected before.

In this way [pause] one could conclude, in short, that if the objectives of the hostage taking and the blows that America has received in this regard, and the prestige [pause] and the prestige which it has lost not only in Iran and on the regional level but also on the international level, if this were studied as the greatest crisis of its history, the hostage taking and its conclusion one defeat not a defeat [as heard] but we would regard it as a victorious step. [Persian for final sentence is as follows: "ba in tartib kutah sokhan mitavan natijeh gereft key agar hadafha-ye gerogan giri va zarbana'i ra keh amrika az in babat khordeh ast va e'tebari keh cheh dar Iran va dar mantaqeh va cheh dar sat h-e beynol melali be'onvan-e bozorg tarin bohran-e tarikhe khod az dast داده است را بار resi nama'im gerogan giri va payan-e anra yek shekast nah hek shekast balkeh yek gam-e piruzmandaneh khahim namid."]

'70 Percent' Figure Retracted

LD142134 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2054 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] In connection with a report carried by foreign news agencies quoting a radio commentary by the Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran which claimed the United States had been forced to secure [ta'min] 70 percent of the financial conditions demanded by Iran and to deposit the same to the Central Bank of Algeria, PARS contacted the official responsible for the affairs of the hostages and learned that the content of this comment with regard to the figure given is not supportable.

TEHRAN CLAIMS 'VICTORY' IN GAINING RIGHTS FROM U.S.

LD150008 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2128 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Following the defeat of the Axis Powers in World War II and the decline of world power of British imperialism, two new power blocs were created in the world and began to grow. The American and Soviet superpowers constituted the axes of these two blocs. As a new power American imperialism tried, by making use of the experiences of its experienced cousin, England, to impress the small countries with the fear of the emergence of a new empire by means of making use of all the propaganda facilities which were at the disposal of its mass media, especially as the decline of British power and the rapid rise of power of the communist Soviet Union had created a favorable opportunity for the flight of these small countries into the American lap.

The first American mistake, which broke its military might, was when, due to its ever-increasing strength, it regarded itself as the master of other nations and became involved in the long war in Indochina. This war had broken the power of France, Japan and England and resulted in the disgraceful defeat of a world military power when faced with the iron will of the seemingly weak nation of Vietnam. Although the American defeat in Vietnam was a psychological and military defeat, nevertheless, Western propaganda tried to portray it as the result of the mistakes of the political leaders in America, so that in this way they might reduce the defeat suffered by the prestige of the American superpower.

A few years after the Vietnam war and when America was about to achieve a firm foothold in the richest strategic regions of the world, by means of installing a gendarme in the Persian Gulf and the Horn of Africa, the Islamic revolution of Iran came about. The victory of the Islamic revolution of Iran created such a fright for the world devourers, especially America, that Moshe Dayan, the famous Zionist and the former defense minister of the regime occupying the Holy Land, described it as the beginning of a great earthquake, while Brzezinski described it as a frightful storm.

The fall of the gendarme of the region forced America to turn to other countries such as Egypt, Iraq, Oman and Jordan in order to safeguard its regional interests. On the other hand, by guiding internal minigroups and the infiltration of its agents in government organs, it tried to prepare the ground for its return to Iran.

Eight months after the triumph of the Islamic revolution and at a time when American imperialism had succeeded in creating the background for disorder and unrest in a few border areas by guiding its internal minigroups, suddenly the lightning struck and a revolution greater than the first revolution was brought about and the den of espionage of the world's greatest military power was occupied by a number of unarmed youths and 52 American spy hostages were captured.

The hostage-taking issue, in addition to its value from the political and military points of view, revealed the nature of the embassies of a great Satan. The significance of holding the Americans as hostages, and that by a small country, spread throughout the world. The holding of the American spies as hostages delivered such a political blow at the awesome military might of the American superpower, that the deprived and captive nations of the world saw with their own eyes that the bogey of America as a superpower was broken by an unarmed nation. For the first time, a people dared to hold American spies as hostages and then announce that America cannot do a damned thing.

International imperialism which had turned to America [words indistinct] for hatching conspiracies and even ridiculing the Islamic revolution of Iran, became so frightened at the demand of Iranian revolutionaries concerning the extradition of the shah that, after a lifetime of American servitude and abjectness, they were forced to expel the criminal of the century from America and were even forced to kill him and obliterate him from the pages of history because of Iran's reaction and the fear of further disgrace.

Another blow which the occupation of the den of espionage delivered upon America was to prove that we kept them until the realization of our rights, and although 15 months passed from the holding of the hostages, nevertheless, American imperialism, despite its futile attempts in Tabas and by the coup d'etat, in reality could not do a damned thing.

The third blow delivered at the prestige of the American superpower through the occupation of the den of espionage was the revelation of the documents kept in the den of espionage and the destruction of the mask of human rights, and the revelation of the true nature of America to all deprived people of the world so that all might know what filthy faces are covered under the mask of human rights and diplomacy.

The fourth blow delivered by holding the spies as hostages on America's international prestige was the toppling of Carter as President, and the political interference of a small country in the fate of the greatest and most bloodthirsty world devourer and capitalist. Mrs Rosalynn Carter, Jimmy Carter's wife, after the defeat of her husband in the American elections, with weeping eyes confessed that the failure of Carter in confronting the Islamic revolution of Iran and the hostage taking caused his downfall from the post of President.

Now, Iran, 15 months after the seizure of the hostages, the revelation of American weakness and the insistence of the Islamic Republic of Iran in achieving its rights--and leaving the fate of the hostages to the Islamic Consultative Assembly of Iran and the decisive decision of the Majlis and its implementation by the revolutionary government under the supervision of the Islamic Consultative Assembly--for the first time in world history, is about to wrest its rights from the throat of a proud superpower.

Iran has achieved its political and spiritual goals by holding the hostages and because did it not allow itself to be ridiculed in the world by the admission of the deposed shah into America. On the contrary, with its moral pressure it caused the destroyed shah to be thrown upon the dustbin of history forever. Another moral victory by Iran in this issue is to prove to the world that the deprived and oppressed people of the world can stand up to the superpowers and arrogant forces, and through steadfastness and reliance upon their own faith prove that the imperialists cannot do a damned thing either by their military conspiracies, their economic embargoes or by direct warfare. The third moral victory of the Islamic revolution of Iran in holding the hostages was the dependence of the first world revolution upon the deprived masses of the world while being isolated by the powerful and the world devourers.

In the words of the imam: We warmly welcome this isolation, and through our isolation from the governments we have found a place among the nations and also maintained our independence and freedom. Finally, the fourth victory of the Islamic revolution of Iran was to force a wild and roughneck superpower to return the legitimate rights of a deprived but arisen nation.

The revolutionary and ideologically oriented government is now about to regain its legitimate rights by implementing the decisions of the Islamic Consultative Assembly and by receiving necessary guarantees from the greatest world power. This will prove to the world that it is possible to stand up to haughty and arrogant powers and to wrest one's rights from their throats. We hope that rubbing American imperialism's nose in the dust of Iran and the regaining of our rightful and legitimate rights will be a lesson to all other deprived and captive nations. If they follow Islam and accept God as greater than all, then all the powers and superpowers and tanks, cannons and planes are worth nothing, because "The hand of God is above all hands." [Koranic verse]

RAJA'I NABAVI 'MEET, CONFER' WITH KHOMEYNI

LD151050 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1039 GMT 15 Jan 81

[Text] Mr Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, the prime minister, and engineer Behzad Navabi, the minister of state for executive affairs and government spokesman, were received this morning by Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran. They met and conferred with the imam.

AFP: WESTERN ENVOYS TO MEET 'AZIZI, NABAVI

NC142102 Paris AFP in English 2058 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Tehran, 14 Jan (AFP)--Western diplomats here will make a new appeal to Iranian authorities tomorrow to release the 52 U.S. hostages now in their 15th month of captivity, diplomatic sources here said today.

Diplomats representing the European Economic Community members and other Western nations will make their request in a letter to Behzad Nabavi, the Iranian official in charge of the hostage affair, the sources said.

It was also learned that a Swiss diplomat delivered to Iranian parliament president Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi Rafsanjani a message signed by 185 U.S. legislators expressing their concern over the situation and urging the hostages be freed soon. Mr Rafsanjani said he shared the Americans' concerns, according to a well informed source. Observers saw the statement as confirmation of the desire of Iranian leaders--also expressed by Mr Nabavi--to resolve the hostage crisis as soon as possible.

'Azizi on Hostage 'Difficulties'

NC151320 Paris AFP in English 1315 GMT 15 Jan 81

[Text] Tehran, 15 Jan (AFP)--Difficulties still remain in securing the freedom of the Tehran embassy hostages, an Iranian Government spokesman said today.

Diplomatic sources here quoted Ahmad 'Azizi as telling representatives from a score of Western countries who had appealed once more for a rapid release of the hostages that the difficulties involves indexing the Iranian Government assets frozen in the United States and quashing American court prosecutions directly linked to the hostage issue.

The sources said that the Western diplomats had also raised with Mr 'Azizi what they considered Iranian violations of international law, including the denial of the right of the Swiss embassy, which is acting for the United States in Iran, to visit the hostages.

The diplomats were also due to meet Behzad Nabavi, the minister for executive affairs and principal Iranian negotiator over the hostages, who earlier today saw Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, along with Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i.

ALGIERS: HOSTAGE ISSUE SETTLEMENT 'IMMINENT'

LD141448 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Excerpt] It seems that the settlement of the U.S. hostage issue has become imminent, according to statements by those following this issue. In this connection, Behzad Nabavi, official spokesman for the Iranian Government, asserted that there were points on which the attitude of both the Iranian and American sides meet with regard to the entire proposals that the authorities of both countries are conducting negotiations through Algeria. He added that this issue might be settled at most in the course of the next 3 days by either releasing them or making them stand trial before the Iranian Islamic revolutionary courts.

At the same time the Iranian National Consultative Assembly has approved the first bill authorizing the Iranian Government to seek international arbitration to settle its legal and financial disputes with the U.S. Government, in addition to laying down the necessary preparations leading to the release of the U.S. hostages.

AFP: ALGERIA HAS NOT BEEN ASKED TO ACCEPT HOSTAGES

NC141327 Paris AFP in English 1322 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Excerpts] Algiers, 14 Jan (AFP)--Algeria has "not yet" been asked to accept the American hostages if they are allowed to leave Tehran and no preparations have been made to greet them, an authoritative source said here today.

The source said that no decision would be taken on transiting the Americans through Algiers until Washington and Tehran had agreed the details of the release. However, observers feel that the imminently-expected release will see the hostages handed over to an Algerian delegation and put into the hands of U.S. officials in Algiers: Possibly the State Department team in the Algerian capital since last Thursday and led by Deputy Secretary Warren Christopher.

BEHESHTI INTERVIEWED ON HOSTAGES, OTHER ISSUES

Hostages: Solution or Trial

JN150900 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0815 GMT 15 Jan 81

[Text] JOMHURI YE-ESLAMI and SOBH AZADEGAN both published the text of the statements made by Ayatollah Beheshti, president of the Supreme Judicial Council, in his periodic weekly meeting, in which he discussed the U.S. hostage issue, the Islamic Conference and the formation of a council of experts to elect the faqih [jurisconsult] and other domestic and international issues.

On the need to bolster the country's national unity, particularly at a time when we are facing the aggressive war waged by the Iraqi regime, Ayatollah Beheshti said: We have constantly repeated ever since the aggressive war began that world imperialism is seeking to pose obstacles and impediments to the Iranian people's victory over the enemy. The Iranian people have to be prepared to wage a long war. Thus, the bolstering of national unity in the country is one of the basic needs for waging such a war and emerging victorious.

On his meeting with the Romanian ambassador in Tehran yesterday, the president of the Supreme Judicial Council said that he and the ambassador discussed bilateral relations of amity and studied ways of developing these relations in various fields, particularly economic areas, taking into consideration our [word indistinct] independence in adopting decisions.

Concerning the formation of the council of experts to elect the faqih [jurisconsult] for the Council of Jurisconsults in the future, in accordance with the Constitution, Ayatollah Beheshti announced that special studies on this issue have been completed and submitted to Imam Khomeyni for ratification.

In reply to a question posed by a foreign correspondent on whether it would be preferable to release the U.S. hostages before Ronald Regan's assumption of power in the United States, Ayatollah Beheshti said: In our viewpoint, there is no difference between the two. Ayatollah Beheshti added: If the government and Majlis manage to reach a joint solution to the hostage issue, it is certain that the solution will be carried out. Otherwise, the government can propose the trial of the hostages.

In reply to a question posed by one of the correspondents, who asserted that the United States has prepared the forthcoming Islamic Conference in order to deal a blow at the Islamic Republic of Iran and then asked about Iran's stand on the conference, the Supreme Judicial Council president said: Of course, the Islamic summit conference will not be convened with the participation of the Islamic peoples' true representatives. Instead, you will see in the conference leaders who do not truly represent their countries' peoples. Thus it can be said that these meetings and conferences are not completely in the interest of Islamic goals and issues.

Foreign Courts Unacceptable

LD142028 Tehran in English to Europe 1930 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Dr Mohammad Hoseyn Beheshti, chief justice of the Supreme Court of Iran, today attended a press conference and responded to questions put to him by reporters. Regarding the war imposed on Iran by Iraq, Dr Beheshti said international imperialism will block the way for the final victory of the Iranian people and the Iranian people should [words indistinct] bring the Islamic revolution to victory through a long [word indistinct].

Regarding the upcoming Islamic Conference summit in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, the chief justice of the Supreme Court of Iran said the conference will not be attended by all those who are true representatives of their own nations and, in his words: Such a conference will not guarantee the interests of the Muslims and Islam. On the issue of boycotting of the conference by several countries, Mr Beheshti said: Iran has cordial and friendly relations with Libya, Algeria and Syria and when these countries do not attend the conference this will be in Iran's favor. He added: However, if Saddam Husayn does not attend the conference then the situation will be different.

Regarding relations between Iran and other countries, Mr Beheshti said Iran prefers to have relations with those countries which do not contaminate Iran with imperialism.

On the question of the American hostages, the chief justice of the Supreme Court of Iran said in some cases that the Iranian courts should decide, then the Iranian tribunals will take this responsibility, but in his words: If no Iranian courts should take some decisions in this case Iran will never accept the judgement of the courts of those countries which act as puppets of the U.S. Government.

Closer Ties With Romania

JN142109 Tehran International Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Ayatollah Dī Beheshti, president of the Supreme Court, has stated in a press interview that world imperialism tries to set up barriers before the Iranian people's Islamic revolution and that one of these barriers is the war which Iraq has imposed on Iran. He said that the valiant Iranian people are determined to exhaust the enemy and to safeguard our Islamic revolution's triumph.

Replying to a question on his talks with the Romanian ambassador to Iran, Dr Beheshti said that the talks dealt with bilateral commercial cooperation. He added: These relations could continue to develop and expand if Romania pays more attention to the characteristics of the Islamic revolution of the Iranian people.

The president of the Supreme Court also said: We will try to further develop our relations with the peoples and the states that are completely free from imperialism's (domain).

Selection of Justice Minister

LD141920 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Excerpts] Ayatollah Beheshti, president of the Supreme Judicial Council, today took part in a radio-television interview and answered our correspondent's questions about the representative of the judicial branch in the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the method of choosing the minister of justice, and the judicial police. We draw your attention to this interview.

[Begin recording] [Question] In connection with the resignation of the minister of justice which took place during the past 2-3 weeks, has the Supreme Judicial Council introduced anyone to the prime minister for the position of minister of justice?

[Answer] You know that originally we introduced five persons and Mr Ahadi was chosen from among them. It is possible that the prime minister might choose someone from among the remaining four. At the same time, it would be better if the Supreme Judicial Council help further consultations with those same gentlemen as well as with other people. We might introduce new persons.

[Question] Bearing in mind the need to convening the Council of Experts, which was foreseen in the Constitution, what has happened about convening this council?

[Answer] You know that this Council of Experts is different from the Council of Experts which people were familiar with in the past. The former Council of Experts consisted of individuals chosen as experts to write the Constitution, to prepare the draft of the Constitution. This Council of Experts, however, which was foreseen in connection with the principle of velayat-e faqih [supremacy of the jurisconsult], would mean that a number of people who are capable of indentifying the faqih [jurisconsult], and persons who are capable of expressing a view concerning the faqih and the qualifications of the faqih, would be chosen by the people. This group would choose and announce the leader or the members of the leadership council from among the existing faqihs. In the Constitution it was foreseen that the regulations concerning the election of these people should be defined and approved by the Council of Guardians. The faqihs of the Council of Guardians have done this. They have prepared a draft and sent it to the leader. After his [Khomeyni's] signature, it will be carried out. [end recording]

BANI-SADR 31 OCT LETTER TO KHOMEYNI ON CONFLICTS

DW141446 Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 12 Jan 81 pp 100-101

[31 October 1980 letter by Iranian President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr to Ayatollah Khomeyni]

[Text] Office of the president.

In the name of God.

My dear father. For more than 6 months I have repeatedly predicted and reported to you the situation we are faced with today. Mr Musavi Ardebili handed me your appeal, and because of the atmosphere of yesterday's meeting I have to tell you now:

At the time the Revolution Council finally rejected the transfer of the hostages to the government, when I cried with irritation and grief, I said: The problem that we cannot solve now from a position of strength we will have to solve some day from a position of weakness and hopelessness. Unfortunately, this day has now come.

You were told that I was against the principles of the revolution and that I wanted to revive the army. You refused to believe whatever I said, for example, that our internal and external enemies were about to plunge us into a great disaster and that we must reorganize our army. Nonetheless I did everything in my power and today--contrary to every military tradition--the army is being reorganized under the blows of the enemy. Those (who denounced me) are responsible for our misfortune.

These people do not come to you to tell you that we recruited 42,000 men within a month, but they ask why the rest of the reserve forces has not been put into action. Yesterday the same gentlemen said in your absence that the number of troops was useless; what we needed was artillery.

Repeatedly, I drew your attention to the worsening of the country's economic situation. I do not remember how often I did it. Today the government does not have a single rial and borrows money from the Central Bank despite the war and despite the inflation; what will happen to Iran? May God have mercy on us.

I told you repeatedly that this government is unable to solve the present situation and that the country's fate should not be entrusted to those who have absolutely no knowledge of the country and whose abilities are extremely limited. You refused to listen.

Where else in the world is it customary for gentlemen to organize a guerrilla army, set up committees and then say: "Now you govern?"

Where else in the world have you ever seen those who ruined the country's army and economy and pushed Iran to the deepest abyss of its history now pose as prosecutors in your presence?

Where else in the world has a government been imposed on the army commanders and the president in the middle of a raging war, the activities of which consist in putting obstacles in the president's way?

I told you repeatedly that the task of the radio and television at present merely consists of inciting the people. How many times did I tell you: I swear by God, I do not need the radio and television, but this kind of radio and television is preparing the social ruin of the revolution with this kind of propaganda.

God is witness that no president has been done as much harm, and I have suffered all this only in order not to hurt you. But what is at stake now is the country's life or death.

My dear father, I swear by God that nowhere in the world has a commander been recalled from the front just for the purpose of listening to the incoherent talk of a city commander who is a member of the gang that ruined the army of Khuzestan. My dear father, I am afraid--God should not want it to happen--they will not learn and will continue their game.

My dear father, unfortunately this situation does not allow me to resign, because the home front would thus suffer a serious blow. Therefore, I pray to God to grant me the honor of Shahid (martyr's death in a holy war) to spare me capitulation and humiliation.

My dear father, for the whole time that I have been in contact with you, can you recall me ever having told you the untruth?

Scientific forecasts on the situation are possible only with scientific methods. This is the basis on which I answer the question as to what must be done, regardless of whether I stay alive or not. There is but one solution.

A. In the middle of the war the British people pushed Chamberlain aside and put Churchill into government.

In my opinion the existence of the incumbent government is the greater evil than the war, notably for these reasons:

1. It is unfit with respect to both its level of knowledge and practical work, and is inept and/or unsuited;
2. It is not even impartial but displays open hostility toward the president, co-operation therefore being impossible; and
3. The lack of prestige in society and the inability to insure for itself the required support by the people, and especially the inability to prevent the constant increase in the resistance to state institutions.

If the government stays the situation will worsen from one day to the next, do send a trustworthy commission to the people and then see what it says and what explosive danger the continuation of the war harbors.

B. Propaganda organs (radio and television) in which the responsible people meet with weapons are organs which further aggravate the explosive situation. I state with all determination: these organs need a strong manager.

I was approached several times and told that the people were agitated and wanted to hear the president say something. I replied: I will not talk until the situation in radio and television has changed. I have not officially announced this to date, but I am forced to do it now.

Under the conditions we have, censorship is the most dangerous thing that exists, because the people will ask why the truth was withheld from them.

C. The armed forces must be subordinated to a uniform leadership which they will obey. This cannot be achieved without sending those away who corrupt others a thousandfold and then run to you calling themselves believers.

D. The war must be continued with patience and perserverance. So far no army has ever been reorganized under attack by the enemy, but our army is about to do just that. The army must acquire the spirit of attack. This is not practicable, however, with the people who bear responsibility in Khuzestan. They have nothing on their minds but collecting points in their favor and setting up files.

Even if humble me did not accomplish much, I did render one service: I took over a dispersed, demoralized and disobedient army which nevertheless fought in Kurdistan, Bonobad, Western Azerbaijan and in the whole west of Iran. Today it is even stronger than it was at the beginning of the war.

My dear father: Apart from this there is not other way. I hope that you will react with the determination of the first days. In the event of my survival this is the only course toward a solution--should I die (Inshallah, please God) this will be even more urgent, and there must not be a delay of even an hour.

What I said in a discussion was this: In the event I lose my life I do not ask anything--either of the people or of the government, either pension or anything else. Only my wife and my children should not be tormented for their belonging to me, because I am convinced that these gentlemen do not have a conscience and only want power.

Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, 31 October 1980

BANI-SADR RECEIVES RED CROSS REPRESENTATIVES

LD141800 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1635 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] According to a PARS dispatch, two representatives of the International Red Cross committee this afternoon met Dr Seyyed Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, the president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, in a city in Khuzestan Province. The International Red Cross representatives who recently visited POW's in Iran and Iraq, handed the president a report on their work.

RAJA'I ADDRESSES HEALTH MINISTRY SEMINAR 12 JAN

LD141842 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Excerpts] The Central News Bureau reports that the second annual seminar of the Islamic societies of hospitals and the subsidiary departments of the Ministry of Health, which began on Monday, 12 January, to study the difficulties and shortcomings of the Islamic societies of the Ministry of Health, came to an end this afternoon by issuing a resolution.

The same report adds that Mr Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, took part in the last session of this seminar and, referring to the issue of expertise, said: As American imperialism realized that it had lost Iran, it tried to find a way in order to penetrate Iran, however, it realized that it does not possess piety and ideological principles, which are the basis of revolution, and it completely lost hope. As it had no foothold among revolutionary Islamic organizations, it was forced to try and find those whose brains and lives are bullied with the Western principles propagated by America itself. It discovered that the best thing would be to raise the issue of expertise. They had the same thoughts before the revolution and once again they have begun to play these tunes. Is it not the case that all the paperwork and all the bureaucracy surrounding employment have been created by the experts?

Continuing his speech Mr Raja'i said, addressing Islamic societies: As revolutionary organs you are responsible for safeguarding the Islamic revolution which has had more than 60,000 martyrs.

Mere membership in Islamic societies and the mere existence of Islamic societies will not be able to implement that which you and I are seeking. If the Islamic societies wish to be accepted in society they should have proper behavior and this behavior should be the guarantee of our membership in these societies. Then we will have strength above that on paper [as heard]. At the end of his speech the prime minister said: I will support revolutionary organizations so long as I am alive.

Following the seminar the prime minister inspected the activities of the reconstruction crusade of the Ministry of Health.

FARS MAJLIS DEPUTIES MEET WITH BEHZAD NABAVI

GF121922 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1830 GMT 13 Jan 81

[Text] The Fars Majlis deputies met today with minister without portfolio and government spokesman Behzad Nabavi. They discussed problems related to Fars Province. During the meeting which took place at 1100 the supply of gasoline for farmers and their other needs were discussed for an hour. Afterward the minister without portfolio and government spokesman requested greater cooperation between the Majlis deputies and organizations and expressed hope that matters discussed during the meeting will be solved soon.

ENERGY MINISTRY PLANS ELECTRICITY CUTBACK

LD141148 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] The following statement was handed to PARS by the Energy Ministry today:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Esteemed brothers and sisters, dear compatriots. In order to give priority to the supply of the electricity requirement of military plants and production industries, and keeping in step with the forces of Islam in accordance with the foreseen plan, it is necessary for the electricity supply to be cut off temporarily in some areas. These planned power cuts, which are arranged with regards to priority and on a rotational basis, will be brought to the attention of all by the regional electricity companies in every province. All the fighting and Muslim people of the provinces are requested to help reduce the duration of these power cuts by saving electricity, and to continue the struggle against the infidels through tolerance and perseverance. For, with God's help, victory is at hand.

OIL MINISTRY ANNOUNCES CRUDE PRICE INCREASES

GF141550 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] PARS, citing a spokesman for the Oil Ministry, reports that the price of Iranian crude oil has been increased as of 1 January. The spokesman added that the price of Iranian light white crude oil will be \$37 per barrel and heavy crude oil will be \$36 per barrel.

TEHRAN CITES DAMASCUS VOICE OF IRAQ ON SADDAM

JN150806 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 15 Jan 81

[Text] Commenting on the current situation in Iraq the Damascus Voice of Iraq announced that the violent acts and practices of Saddam Husayn and his clique, both inside Iraq and abroad, can be divided into three parts:

1. Criminal acts which instill fear and terror in the hearts of the oppressed sons of the Iraqi people; and the detaining and torturing of the Iraqi mojahedin, who are opposed to the agent Iraqi regime.

2. Paving the way for resumption of relations with the United States by Saddam Husayn and his clique.

The third criminal act is represented by the war, which the Tikriti Saddam imposed on the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The radio says that the torture of Iraqi mojahedin has become a natural phenomenon, adding that professional torturers are continually carrying out such acts. Thus the oppressed Iraqi people are suffering greatly because of this unjust practice which is being resorted to by the foolish Iraqi rulers.

Reports from Iraq say that secret and mysterious contacts were conducted between the rulers of Iraq and the United States. The latest report says that Henry Kissinger, former U.S. secretary of state, secretly met with Saddam Husayn during his last visit to the Middle East region. The Damascus Voice of Iraq quotes the Lebanese magazine AL-KIFAH AL-'ARABI as saying: Kissinger's 73-hour visit to Baghdad and meeting with Saddam Husayn [incomplete sentence as heard].

World news agencies have reviewed the material and human losses which have resulted from the war imposed by Saddam and his clique on the Islamic Republic of Iran and the oppressed Iraqi people. The agencies add that Saddam Husayn is on the verge of collapse.

ARABIAN PENINSULA CITIZENS SEND DONATIONS TO IRAN

JN150634 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 15 Jan 81

[Text] Our correspondent has said that a group of our Muslim brothers in the Arabian Peninsula have contributed the sum of 160,000 Saudi riyals and 100,000 Iranian rials in aid to their brothers the fighters in the Islamic front in Iran.

Our Muslim brothers also expressed readiness to leave for the battlefronts and to fight on the side of the soldiers of Islam against the mercenaries of the infidel Iraqi regime.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE 374

LD141756 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1636 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Communique 374 of the joint staff of the armed forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name, combatant Muslim nation of Iran: The following reports some of the activities of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the way in which operations have been conducted in the battle between right and wrong in the last 24 hours:

1. Today the combatant heroes of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran destroyed on the Mahshahr-Abadan highway 1 enemy tank, 2 personnel carriers, 2 military vehicles, 1 of which was carrying ammunition, and several trenches and killed 12 Iraqi Army servicemen. When our units opened fire on the enemy positions on the same axis yesterday 32 Iraqi Army servicemen were killed.
2. Yesterday one transgressing Iraqi MiG aircraft was shot down and destroyed by a fighter aircraft of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the vicinity of Abadan.
3. During today's offensive carried out by helicopters of the Airborne Division of the ground forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran against the aggressive enemy along the Darkhovin-Marad axis 6 enemy military vehicles, 1 fuel tanker and 1 bulldozer were set on fire, 20 Iraqi Army servicemen were killed and several were wounded.

4. Yesterday some parts of the city of Abadan came under sporadic enemy artillery fire as a result of which action two houses were destroyed. The enemy also directed his long-range artillery fire at parts of the city of Dezful, damaging several housing and commercial units and wounding one person.

5. The battle continues to rage in the Susangerd and (Hoveyzgan) region between the brave combatants of the armed forces of Islam and the aggressive enemy.

6. Our forces deployed around the Karkheh river opened fire on the enemy, killing 30 Iraqi Army servicemen and damaging 1 enemy tank. According to the same report our forces' losses on the southern front have been announced as 1 martyred and 28 wounded.

7. The battle against the aggressive enemy continues to rage in areas in the west of the country, and the brave combatants of Islam have inflicted heavy casualties on the aggressive enemy. Yesterday in one of the suburbs of Mehran an Iraqi soldier surrendered to the army of Islam and sought asylum. In the meantime yesterday morning in the Gilan-e Gharb region, one Phantom aircraft of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran crashed but its pilots parachuted to safety.

[Signed] The joint staff of the armed forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

TEHRAN: FIGHTING CONTINUES ON KHUNINSHAHR FRONT

LD141756 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1639 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] According to the PARS correspondent from Abadan, today the exchange of artillery fire and hand-to-hand clashes with light weapons continued between the fighters of Islam and the infidel mercenaries of Saddam on various fronts. According to the same report last night and this morning the Muslim fighters destroyed some of the enemy trenches near Marad by firing Katyusha missiles. It has also been reported from the front lines of the Abadan front that, despite the fire superiority of our forces, no considerable change took place today in the battle against the forces of the mercenary Saddam. Both sides only continued with the exchange of sporadic artillery fire.

According to the same report sporadic clashes continued throughout the Khuninshahr fronts between the Muslim heroes, including the guards corps, the popular mobilization forces, the ground forces and the navy rangers and the mercenary forces of blasphemy on the western part of Khuninshahr. [sentence as heard]

According to the PARS correspondent, last night fighting continued on the Khuninshahr fronts with light and heavy weapons. Also from 0300 this morning for 1 hour the enemy severely attacked the eastern part of Khuninshahr with mortar launchers and heavy weapons. The enemy also opened fire on the positions and residential homes in the east of Khuninshahr. In these clashes no casualties were inflicted on our forces.

According to the same report navy rangers during the past 2 days opened fire on the enemy positions with mortar launchers and heavy weapons, as the result of which some of the trenches of the infidels were destroyed. Also, four enemy individual and group trenches were destroyed by RPG-7's as the result of which at least three of the soldiers of the mercenary Saddam were killed and a number wounded.

FIGHTING, SHELLING CONTINUE ON KHUZESTAN FRONT

LD141820 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1641 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] PARS reports that the public relations department of the Khuzestan governorate general has announced: today fighting continued on all fronts in Ahvaz between the fighters of Islam and the mercenary Saddam's soldiers.

The city of Ahvaz has also enjoyed relative calm for a few consecutive days. Today four fighters of Islam were martyred on Ahvaz fronts, but no news is available about the number of enemy casualties and losses. According to this report until 1830 yesterday the city of Hoveyzeh was under fire from heavy enemy artillery, as a result of which a number of our civilian compatriots were martyred and wounded in Hoveyzeh. On the Susangerd and Karkeh Kur fronts fighting also continues between the heroic forces of Islam and the mercenaries of Saddam. The Khuzestan relief and health headquarters reported that in the last 24 hours 16 wounded fighters of the Islamic Republic of Iran were taken to Ahvaz hospitals from the Susangerd, Mohammadiyah, (Malihan), (Kut-e Seyyed Na'im), Hoveyzeh and Karkhe Kur fronts. During the same period the sacred corpses of two of the brave martyred soldiers of Islam were taken from the battlefronts against the infidels of Saddam to the mortuary of one of the hospitals in Ahvaz.

The PARS correspondent reports from Ahvaz that today the mercenary Iraqi forces again fired on the residential areas of the heroic city of Dezful. Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Dezful report that as a result of heavy shelling on residential houses in the last 24 hours several houses have been destroyed, one of the inhabitants of Dezful has been martyred and two persons injured.

One informed official of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Dezful told PARS in Ahvaz that the brave and Muslim people of Dezful enjoy such excellent and self-sacrificing morale that they will not leave their homes and belongings despite the artillery attacks of the Iraqi mercenaries. He said: Although in the last few days several of this city's inhabitants have lost their houses, yet in the worst possible circumstances they are as steady as a rock in the face of difficulties and are prepared to deliver a crushing blow of victory upon the mouth of the infidel forces of Saddam.

GUARDS CLAIM REPULSE OF ATTACK NEAR DIVANDARREH

LD141922 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] The following statement was released a few minutes ago by the central staff command of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Following the ceaseless struggle waged by our self-sacrificing brothers from the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps against illegal armed assailants in the west of the country to mop up the region from the filth of the existence of the mercenary elements who are dependent on imperialism, a group of counterrevolutionaries attacked the forces of Islam in Divandarreh region today and our guards brothers reciprocated their attacks and killed and wounded a large number of them. In this clash one of the guards brothers was martyred and five others were wounded. Meanwhile, a number of armed assailants in Marivan surrendered themselves to the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps. In Javanrud, one Iraqi, who is a school teacher, took refuge with the forces of Islam.

[Signed] The central staff command of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps

TEHRAN CITES BATTLE REPORTS FROM WESTERN FRONT

LD141832 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1644 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] On the western fronts the fighters of Islam have again inflicted heavy blows on enemy positions and destroyed some of their fortifications.

The PARS correspondent reports from Kermanshah: the brave forces of Islam, for the third successive day, downed a violating Iraqi MiG at 1630 today between Meymak and Sad-e Konjamkam. Today, throughout the western fronts from Zahab to Mehran, the fighters of the armed forces, the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, the gendarmerie and the forces of tribal mobilization units, supported by the fighters of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the high-flying eagles of the Airborne Division and the effective artillery units, continued to fight bravely against the aggressive Iraqi forces.

According to the same report today in Zahab, Qasr-e Shirin, Gilan-e Gharb, Sumar, Zeleh-Zard, Darbalut, Meymak, the heights of Sad-e Konjamkan and Mehran fighting continued against the Ba'thist infidels. According to the latest report received at 1730 enemy losses on all the western fronts have been declared to be heavy, and considerable damage has been inflicted upon their artillery and missile positions and their ammunition depots on the western fronts. In view of the fighting during the last few days informed military observers have announced that in the ranks of the aggressive forces of mercenary Saddam instability can be easily discerned.

According to the PARS correspondent's report yesterday the heights of Kanisakht were the scene of intense fighting between the fighters of Islam and the deceived forces of Saddam Takriti. On this front fighting continued with the exchange of artillery fire, heavy weapons and guerrilla operations, as the result of which 2 trucks belonging to the enemy forces were destroyed and about 30 of the forces of blasphemy were killed or wounded. Also yesterday enemy fighter planes twice attacked the Darbaluch and Zeleh-Zard regions; but both times the air defense of the fighting forces of Islam attacked the violating planes and downed one Iraqi MiG. According to this report yesterday the gendarmerie with the cooperation of the brave and Muslim members of Malekshahi tribe brought the enemy positions and fortifications in Dasht-e Mehran under accurate mortar fire and destroyed some of their trenches and killed and wounded a number of the enemy.

According to the same report one of the Iraqi Muslim brothers took refuge with our brave fighters and came under the protection of the fighters of Islam. This refugee brother said the personnel of the armed forces of the mercenary Saddam have completely lost their morale and there is also certain amount of unrest among the leading members of the Iraqi Armed Forces.

TEHRAN MEETING COMMEMORATES GULF WAR MARTYRS

LD142022 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] According to a dispatch by a correspondent of the Central News Bureau of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran, a commemorative meeting glorifying the martyrs of Susangerd and Hovevzeh was held this afternoon at Tehran University's mosque. The meeting was attended by a number of deputies to the Islamic Consultative Assembly, members of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, the construction crusade, the Muslim student followers of the imam's policy, and the office for strengthening unity. At the outset of this ceremony, a number of verses from the Koran were read and then the brother of martyr Hoseyn Elmolhods said: Hoseyn, who was one of the founders of the Vahdeyn group, together with a 70-man group were martyred in the Hovevzeh region.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, Hojjat ol-Eslam Nateq Nuri, deputy to the Islamic Consultative Assembly and supervisor of the construction crusade, referring to the manner in which these brothers were martyred, said: Why is it when some of our dear ones launch an attack and when an order to retreat is given to the army, no one informs our dear ones so that they are not encircled and massacred. These martyred brothers were from among our intellectuals, our brother guards and the Muslim student followers of the imam's policy.

We may not be able to replace such brains and faces all that soon. Here I warn the responsible authorities that their responsibility is an onerous and a momentous one and it should be reviewed. Perhaps treacherous hands are at work and you may not know anything about it. He added: I warn you that the United States, now that it is witnessing the unity of the various segments, intends to drive a wedge between our army and the nation with rumors of the clergy's opposition to the army. He then referred to the role of the revolutionary structures and Islamic associations and the revolutionary-ideological school of Mr Raja'i's government. He listed the many plots hatched by the United States against our country.

INTERIOR MINISTER APPOINTS NEW MAYOR FOR TEHRAN

LD14118 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] According to the Central News Bureau, Ayatollah Mahdavi-Kani, the interior minister, appointed Dr Seyyed Kamaledin Nikravesh as the mayor of Tehran at noon today.

IRAN VOI CLAIMS U.S. HAS GIVEN IN TO IRAN'S DEMANDS

TA132021 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Unattributed commentary: "The Manifestation of The Will of The Nation in Continuing the Struggle Against World-Devouring America"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: It seems from statements by our country's responsible officials, and by U.S. officials as well, that negotiations regarding the legitimate demands of our nation and also regarding the release of the American spy hostages are nearing their last stages. As we are aware, the government submitted two bills to the Islamic Consultative Assembly: One bill relating to resolving and settling financial and legal disputes between the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the U.S. government, and the other on returning the assets of the deceased shah and those of his close relatives.

The first bill was approved following explanations and suggestions by the deputies. The approved bill states: The government is authorized, with regard to financial and legal disputes between the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the U.S. Government not stemming from the Islamic Republic of Iran or the occupation of the American center of conspiracy, to take action through mutually agreed arbitration, taking into account the provisions approved by the Islamic Consultative Assembly, and to settle and resolve the said disputes.

The second bill pertaining to the assets of the deceased shah and his close relatives was approved with single urgency. [sentence as heard]

As reported by our homeland's mass media and by Western mass media--especially American--during the past two days, finally the U.S. was forced to accept the fact that it should deposit Iran's assets in U.S. banks--which are 70 percent of our country's assets--with the National Bank of Algeria. It was also reported that the U.S. has agreed and pledged to deal with the problem of the return of the former shah's wealth.

Although the problem of the U.S. spy hostages continues to have a close relation with the issue of the extradition of the deceased shah and the return of Iran's assets in U.S. banks and the U.S. pledge of non-interference in the internal affairs of our liberated homeland, however, the problem of the hostages was never confined to its own framework, whether within our country or in America or in the public opinion of the world in general. In fact, this problem, regardless of the appearances of the matter and its financial aspects, possesses a much more acute and important political content.

The problem of the hostages, which was created by the Americans themselves by giving refuge to the (?executioner), the deceased shah, in fact not only created a turning point in the anti-imperialist and anti-American struggles of our people, but also in the struggles of the liberation and anti-imperialist movement of the nations of the region and of all the nations held in the bondage of world-devouring America.

The heroic Iranian nation dealt a fatal blow on a world scale to U.S. imperialism with its bare hands and with the power of faith and sacrifice and unity of word and action under the leadership of the imam of the nation, the great Khomeyni, through that glorious revolution and by overthrowing the puppet regime of the deceased shah that was armed to the teeth with U.S. war material. The detention of the American spy hostages and the discovery of secret and revealing documents at the center of U.S. plots in Tehran, however, disgraced U.S. imperialism more than ever throughout the entire world, and even in the eyes of its NATO allies, as an interventionist and bandit force.

Oppressed nations under the domination of rabid U.S. imperialism once more became aware of the fact that in today's world, with the change of the balance of power in favor of nations that favor peace and progressive forces, they can defeat powerful America through faith, sacrifice, unity and alliance, and rub the nose of militaristic circles and the owners of plundering U.S. monopolies in the dust.

World-devouring America, from the very first days of the Iranian revolution's victory and after the hostage-taking event, resorted to various plots and multicolored coups, subversion and fanning the war of fratricide in different provinces, formation of terrorist gangs, bringing into the area American [word indistinct] and homemade Maoists, strengthening and inciting the comprising liberals and the extreme superficial groups [words indistinct] and even to direct military aggression to bring our nation to its knees and to trample on the gains of the Iranian revolution. Finally, it imposed a destructive war on our nation through its agents in the region. None of these plots and crimes, however, could shake the will of our nation in developing the revolution and in continuing the struggle against world-devouring U.S. imperialism. Contrary to the so-called accurate forecasts of the Western propaganda organizations, especially American and Zionist, the intensification of the struggle against U.S. imperialism not only did not result in defeat or the (?overthrow) of our Islamic republic but also made our nation more resolute in the struggle against this world-devouring demon. The nation observed through experience that the U.S. is in fact its number one enemy.

At the same time the hostage-taking event revealed the true nature of the compromising liberals who desire the revival of U.S. domination, which was concealed for a time beneath various deceptive masks, once under the guise of religion, another time under the guise of nationalism, and finally under the guise of democracy.

NVOI ATTACKS PRESENCE OF AFGHAN REBELS IN IRAN

TA141909 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 14 January carried a commentary entitled "The Danger of the Afghan Counterrevolutionary Mercenaries to the Iranian Revolution." U.S. Imperialism and its fifth column in Iran are engaged on a large scale to crush the system of our homeland's Islamic Republic and exploit every means to promote this ominous aim. Use of the Afghan mercenaries residing in our homeland is one of the means utilized widely by U.S. imperialism and its fifth column in Iran. Recently Mr Mohammad 'Ali Tatari, the deputy of the people of Zahedan, while speaking at the Majlis, referred to the problem of the Afghan mercenaries in our country and said that the responsible authorities do not pay sufficient attention to this issue. He asked the Majlis speaker to follow up the matter.

This is not the first or last time that the responsible officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran have been asked to put an end to the plots and anti-Iranian activities of Afghan mercenaries in our homeland and to take urgent measures in this connection. As we are aware, however, so far no decisive steps have been taken by the authorities, and the mercenary Afghans residing in Iran are engaged in delivering blows to the revolution and its gains under the leadership of the counterrevolution and the liberal bourgeoisie. The question posed is: Why do Iran's responsible officials refrain from making a decisive and revolutionary decision against these enemies of the revolution?

The Afghan revolution, like the Iranian revolution, is a broad anti-imperialist, popular and democratic revolution. This is why the Afghan revolution, like the Iranian revolution, has been the target of strong attacks by U.S. imperialism and its allies. The existence of anti-imperialist, independent, free Afghanistan next to free and independent Iran is not only the greatest blow to U.S. imperialism, but at the same time it is the greatest assistance to the existence of the Islamic Republic of Iran. One should attempt to correctly appraise the Afghan events, divorced from blind fanaticism and superficiality, and should desist from aiding the Afghan mercenaries, thus refraining from knowingly dealing blows to the revolution and its gains.

VOICE OF IRANIAN KORDESTAN ON KURDISH AFFAIRS

Demonstrations in Tehran

JN141919 (Clandestine) Voice of Iranian Kordestan in Surani Kurdish 1230 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Tehran--Yesterday, thousands of university students in Tehran, supported by a large number of Tehran citizens, staged demonstrations. They demanded an end to the Iraq-Iran fighting and the opening of universities so that students can pursue their studies. The demonstrators condemned the Iraq-Iran fighting and held Khomeyni and Saddam Husayn responsible for it.

Rival Party 'Illegal'

JN141420 (Clandestine) Voice of Iranian Kordestan in Bahdinani Kurdish 1310 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Information received from the Qotur region says that an organization known as the Iranian Kurdish Democratic Party has been established there under the leadership of an irresponsible person. We hereby inform all the committees and formations affiliated with the Iranian Kurdish Democratic Party, particularly in northern Kordestan, that our party considers the abovementioned organization to be illegal and dissolved. All are requested not to depend on the seal of this organization in the Qotur region.

{Signed} The Constituent Committee of the Iranian Kurdish Democratic Party, 13 January 1981

Warning To Travelers

TA141541 (Clandestine) Voice of Iranian Kordestan in Persian to Iran 1315 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Now we draw the attention of the dear listeners, especially the inhabitants of Sardasht and its environs, to an announcement:

We request all the honorable people of Sardasht and its environs, particularly those who travel by car at night, to obey orders to halt from the peshmergas, and to be very careful about this so that, God forbid, no harm will come to them.

RADIO IRAN BROADCASTS GENERAL OVEYSI MESSAGE

NC141459 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] General Gholam 'Ali Oveysi, former commander of the Iranian ground forces, has issued a statement in which he stresses that our homeland is going through serious moments now and is on the verge of destruction. General Oveysi has also announced that he continues to be faithful to his oath on preserving the independence, the constitution and the monarchy and will struggle to attain these goals. Stressing that the day of victory is near, he advises the people to refrain from hurting or wounding the feelings of those who, unknowingly or unintentionally, have been thrown into this turmoil.

EMIGRE PAPERS COMMENT ON IRAN-USSR TRANSIT TREATY

WA151125 Frankfurt FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE in German 8 Jan 80 p 1

[Text] Frankfurt. 7 January--According to reports in Persian exile newspapers circulating mainly among Iranians living in Europe, the revolutionary regime of Ayatollah Khomeyni in Tehran concluded a treaty with Moscow three weeks ago which in the future will allow Moscow to use thoroughfares in northern and northeastern Iran. Newspaper articles further report that this agreement has already been ratified by the Majlis, the Iranian parliament.

This treaty makes it possible for the Russians to transport arms and ammunition from their sector of the border with Iran east of the Caspian Sea, beginning from about Ashkhabad, through Mashhad to Iran and Afghanistan. Moscow has reportedly already organized substantial arms shipments over the northwestern sector of the Iranian border, that is, through the province of Azarbayjan. The switching center for these consignments is Tabriz, the capital of the Iranian province of East Azarbayjan.

These newspapers also report that this agreement, known as the "Transit Treaty", was obviously approved in a hurry by the Iranian parliament. They point out that the great majority of the Majlis members were not informed of the details of the provisions before the decisive voting. Alluding to the war with neighboring Iraq, authoritative members of the Majlis reportedly expressed the opinion that this treaty "served the national advantage and interests of Iran".

The Persian exiles point out how very much this treaty threatens not only Iran's independence and sovereignty but also the strategically and economically important Gulf region as a whole. The conclusion of the so-called "Transit Treaty" is probably the greatest success of the Soviet Union so far in its efforts to gain influence on Iranian politics.